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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY

Rumania

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SUBJECT

Developments in the Rumanian Emigration

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DATE DISTR. 15 Feb 1954

NO. OF PAGES 2

NO. OF ENCLS.

SUPP. TO
REPORT NO.

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1. In connection with a conference of the leading representatives of the League of Free Rumanians from Munich, London, Paris and New York with Gregor Gafencu in Paris, Gafencu went to that city in the first third of Dec 1953. Gafencu is to take over the presidency of a new National Council, including all political groups of the Rumanian emigration. It is to be assembled by a committee and not elected.
2. Gafencu explains that beside the National Council, which will serve as a kind of parliament, there will be a National Committee as the executive committee of government, and that Visoianu will preside over this National Committee. As Visoianu is already president of the "Rumanian National Committee", this will mean in practice that Gafencu is recognizing this body, with which the League has previously had nothing to do.
3. In changing the old National Committee into the new, the procedure will be to take new members in. Gafencu himself will be one of them.
4. In the course of negotiations Gafencu let it be known that as president of the new National Council, he could no longer remain at the head of the League of Free Rumanians as successor to Radescu. This is a decisive step in the direction of the unification of the Rumanian emigration.

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5. However, unified though the groups may appear to be at the top, the real division between the League and the Visoianu group remains unclosed. In Germany and England the emigré groups are mostly in favor of the League and uncompromisingly opposed to Visoianu, and now Gafencu. In France Gafencu's position has become somewhat stronger. The Rumanian Socialist German is the strong man of the group there, and he is closely linked with Gafencu. It is possible that the German Socialist Party is backing German with funds.

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Approved For Release 2005/08/17 : CIA-RDP80-00809A000500800158-6

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